



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/858,376	05/15/2001	William Gibbens Redmann		3324

7590
William G. Redmann
1202 Princeton Dr.
Glendale, CA 91205

11/01/2006

EXAMINER

DIXON, THOMAS A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3628

DATE MAILED: 11/01/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/858,376

Applicant(s)

REDMANN ET AL.

Examiner

Thomas A. Dixon

Art Unit

3628

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 July 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) See Continuation Sheet is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 11 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4,5,7,9,13,25,28,29,45,47,48,54,58,60,61,64,67,72,75-77,79,83 and 87 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☒ Other: _____.

Continuation of Disposition of Claims: Claims pending in the application are 4,5,7,9,11,13,25,28,29,45,47,48,54,58,60,61,64,67,72,75-77,79,83 and 87.

DETAILED ACTION

Request for Continued Examination

1. The request filed on 7/28/06 for a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) based on parent Application No. 09/858,376 is acceptable and an RCE has been established. An action on the RCE follows.
2. Applicant's reply of 7-28-06 has been considered, but is not convincing. Applicant argues that Waytena et al ('770) does not have "software operable to select" but has only a manual step of selection. The examiner disagrees, Waytena et al ('770) at column 14, lines 13-35 discloses that if desired, the patron may be presented with a list of attractions that match preferences, which is seen to meet the language of applicant's selecting step.
3. Applicant's amendment was non-compliant with regard to the withdrawal of non-selected claims and the status indicators as such. As applicant is pro-se, and the response appears to be bona fide, a notice of non-compliant amendment was not issued, but the non-selected claims have been withdrawn from consideration and are required to be cancelled in response to this action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Art Unit: 3628

4. Claims 4, 5, 7, 9, 13, 25, 28-29, 45, 47-48, 54, 60-61, 64, 67, 72, 75, 77, 79, 83, 87 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Waytena et al (5,978,770).

As per Claim 4.

Waytena et al ('770) discloses:

providing data regarding a first set of attractions, see 2E;

gathering information about said party, at least a portion of said information distinguishing among said first set of attractions with respect to said data, see 2A and 5A;

selecting said second set of attractions from said first set of transactions for which said data substantially matches with said information, see figure 1 (104) and column 14, lines 13-35;

providing a presentation means able to receive said itinerary from said computer see figure 1 (102) and 5D (545);

presenting said itinerary to said party, see figure 1 (102) and 5D (545);

whereby said itinerary is customized for said party, see figure 5D (545).

As per Claim 5.

Waytena et al ('770) further discloses preferences, see column 7, lines 9-31.

As per Claim 7.

Waytena et al ('770) further discloses attributes of the party, see column 7, lines 9-31.

As per Claim 9.

Waytena et al ('770) further discloses the aversion attribute (age), see column 7, lines 9-31.

As per Claim 13.

Waytena et al ('770) further discloses a privilege of the party, see column 20, lines 51-55.

As per Claim 25.

Waytena et al ('770) further discloses a schedule time corresponding to a first attraction of said second set of attractions and adds said scheduled time in association with said first attraction to said itinerary, see column 12, lines 25-29.

As per Claim 28.

Waytena et al ('770) further discloses said party and a second party are part of a group and selecting a schedule substantially equal, see figure 5B.

Art Unit: 3628

As per Claim 29.

Waytena et al ('770) further discloses said scheduled time being selected so that said later scheduled time is at least equal to said earlier schedule time plus a time required between attractions, see column 23, lines 3-24.

As per Claim 45.

Waytena et al ('770) further discloses the itinerary interruptions due to unforeseen circumstances and the attraction computer sending a potential substitute reservation time for the attraction, see column 3, lines 29-35, and the party forgoing the remaining portion, see column 3, line 35 (cancel the reservation).

As per Claim 47.

Waytena et al ('770) further discloses the attractions comprise rides and shows, see figure 5A.

As per Claim 48.

Waytena et al ('770) further discloses access to the attractions, see column 19, lines 9-19.

As per Claim 54.

Waytena et al ('770) further discloses a hand-held computer, see figure 1a (102).

As per Claim 60.

Waytena et al ('770) further discloses a display, see figure 1a (109).

As per Claim 61.

Waytena et al ('770) further discloses audible presentation, see column 5, lines 65-66.

As per Claim 64.

Waytena et al ('770) further discloses a reservation availability checking, see figure 6 (606) and column 12, lines 30-64.

As per Claim 67.

Waytena et al ('770) further discloses if there is excessive demand, the attraction is less likely to be chosen, see column 20, lines 57-64.

As per Claim 72.

Waytena et al ('770) further discloses recording the itinerary in memory, see column 9, lines 21-28.

As per Claim 75.

Waytena et al ('770) further discloses a making a reservation, see figure 6 (603-605) and column 9, lines 1-32.

Art Unit: 3628

As per Claim 77.

Waytena et al ('770) further discloses a marketing message/recommendation, see figure 5c (561).

As per Claim 79.

Waytena et al ('770) further discloses a decision making software, see column 12, lines 30-64.

As per Claim 83.

Waytena et al ('770) further discloses operating hours, cycle capacity, estimated throughput, current throughput, today's throughput, see figure 2E.

As per Claim 87.

Waytena et al ('770) discloses:
data regarding a first set of attractions, see 2E;
information about said party, at least a portion of said information distinguishing among said first set of attractions with respect to said data, see 2A and 5A;
a computer having access to said data and said information, said computer having software operable to select said second set of attractions from said first set of transactions for which said data substantially matches with said information, see figure 1 (104) and column 14, lines 13-35;
a presentation means in communication with said computer, said presentation means able to receive said itinerary from said computer and present said itinerary to said party, see figure 1 (102) and 5D (545);
whereby said itinerary is customized for said party, see figure 5D (545).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 58 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Waytena et al (5,978,770) in view of Laval et al (6,173,209) or Lancos et al (6,873,260).

As per Claim 58.

Art Unit: 3628

Waytena et al ('770) further discloses printed numbered tickets, see column 1, lines 58-61, but does not specifically disclose that the presentation means is a printer.

Laval et al ('209) teaches the printing of passes at a kiosk, see column 3, line 61 – column 4, line 7 and Lancos et al ('260) figure 7 (708) for the benefit of providing proof of entitlement for entry.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made to provide a printer as a presentation means for the benefit of providing proof of entitlement for entry.

6. Claim 76 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Waytena et al (5,978,770) in view of Murashita et al (2002/0062236).

As per Claim 76.

Waytena et al ('770) does not specifically disclose the software applies a perturbation to a desirability of a first attraction of said first set of attractions, said perturbation producing a different result for said second set,

whereby directed demand to said first attraction is redistributed to mitigate at least on selected from the group consisting of underutilization or excessive demand for said first attraction and modes in which parties gather.

Murashita et al ('236) teaches providing an alternative (redistribution) to mitigate excessive demand (all seats now occupied), see figure 1e, for the benefit of redistributing diners from events with excessive demand to underutilized events.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made to provide an alternative event for the benefit of redistributing diners from events with excessive demand to underutilized events.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claim 11 is allowable.

As per Claim 11.

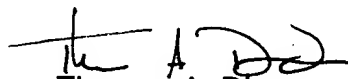
Waytena et al ('770) further discloses the aversion attribute (age), see column 7, lines 9-31, but does not specifically disclose a nullifying preference of said party, wherein said data distinguishes a portion of said first set of attractions as being less desirable with respect to said aversion attribute unless said corresponding nullifying preference is present and wherein in step d) at least on attraction from said portion of said first set of attractions is selected for said second set of attractions.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas A. Dixon whose telephone number is (571) 272-6803. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 6:30 - 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Hayes can be reached on (571) 272-6708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Thomas A. Dixon
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3639

October 06